

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-9 and 14-22 are now pending. Claims 4 and 5 are withdrawn from consideration, but are subject to rejoinder upon allowance of their respective base claim. Claims 10-13 were withdrawn from consideration in the Office Action dated February 4, 2010 and have been canceled herein without prejudice of disclaimer. New Claims 14-22 have been added. Claims 1 and 14 are independent claims.

Personal Interview

Applicants appreciate the opportunity granted by the Examiner to conduct a personal interview on April 28, 2010. During this interview, Applicants explained differences between the claimed car navigation apparatus and that disclosed by commonly-assigned Daizen (JP2003172624) and discussed possible claim amendments to further clarify such differences. In response, the Examiner indicated that functional aspects of the claimed car navigation apparatus in Claim 1 are being interpreted as merely "intended use" and suggested adopting "configured to" language to clarify that the recited apparatus elements are configured to perform the recited functions. The Examiner agreed that such amendments would define over the applied Daizen reference. In this Reply, Applicants have amended the claims in a manner that is consistent with the Examiner's suggestions.

Election/Restriction Requirement

As indicated on page 3 of the Office Action, dependent claims 4-5 remain withdrawn from consideration. Applicants note, however, that such claims are subject to rejoinder upon allowance of their respective base claim. Newly-submitted claims 10-13 have been withdrawn from consideration based on constructive election by original presentation. Applicants have canceled Claims 10-13 without prejudice to disclaimer.

Priority Document

As discussed in the Reply dated October 8, 2009, the Notice of Acceptance of Application under 35 USC §371 has acknowledged receipt of the Japanese priority document. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge that all requirements for foreign priority have been satisfied. In the event that the Notice of Acceptance was erroneous, Applicants request that the Examiner clarify the record, in which case Applicants will submit another copy of the certified priority document.

Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1-3, 6-7 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by, or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over, Daizen (JP 2003172624). Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Daizen in view of Komatsu (USP 6,859,724). These rejections, insofar as they pertain to the presently pending claims, are respectfully traversed.

In view of the results of the personal interview and the amendments submitted concurrently herewith, Applicants respectfully submit that the prior art rejections relying on Daizen have been clearly overcome. Consequently, Applicants respectfully request that these rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn. Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that new independent claim 14 and its dependent claims define over the applied prior art based on similar reasoning.

CONCLUSION

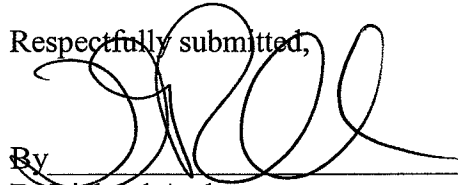
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact D. Richard Anderson at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

DRA/vd

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: April 29, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Anderson', written over a horizontal line.

By
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